

Out of State Fact Sheet – Updated October 27, 2005

The Idaho Department of Correction has signed a contract with Corrections Corporation of America for out of state beds. Below are answers to common questions from offender families who are concerned about their loved ones.

Why are Idaho offenders being sent out of state?

The reason the Department is going out of state is because all facilities are at 100% capacity and the Department can no longer manage offender growth inside existing Idaho prisons.

The Department plans to move 302 offenders initially.

Who will be managing the offenders sent out of state? How long will they be gone?

A contract has been signed with Corrections Corporation of America to house inmates at the Prairie Correctional Center in Appleton, Minnesota. The contract is for two years, but there are provisions allowing for extensions ranging from one month to one year.

How did you choose the prison in Minnesota?

An IDOC team of administrators traveled to this facility prior to the transfer. It was selected in part due to similarities to Idaho prison facilities and provided education, programming and vocational education for offenders. The prison also has enough room to allow for Idaho offenders to be housed together in a tier.

How were offenders chosen?

The Department created a list of the first 300 from volunteers and non-volunteers. A screening process required that offenders be a minimum of two years away from their parole eligibility date, that they have no major medical issues, and length of sentence was also a factor.

Can I arrange to have my loved one taken off the list?

The list is final and there is no appeal process. The specific housing placement of offenders in IDOC custody is within the purview of the department.

The Public Records act does not allow us to disclose the names of offenders who will be transported or allow us to discuss any transport details.

We sympathize with families and loved ones affected by this unfortunate event. It is not our first choice to send Idaho offenders out of state, but has become necessary because of the prison population growth.

Are more Idaho offenders going out of state?

The prison population is expected to continue growing at a rate of about 30 inmates a month so more out of state beds will be needed next year.

How can I send mail to an offender sent out of state?

Here is the address for inmate mail:

Prairie Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 500
Appleton, MN 56208

For a detailed list of the requirements for incoming inmate mail at this prison, see the following website. The offender will be housed under their IDOC number.

<http://www.correctionscorp.com/facilitylist.cfm>

What about inmate banking?

Idaho offenders will have access to inmate banking funds within 48 hours after their arrival in Minnesota. Any inmate banking deposits need to be made via mail to the following address:

Prairie Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 157
Appleton, MN 56208

What offender property is allowed during the transfer?

All personal property was itemized, packaged and wrapped for each offender. The packages were sent via truck to the Minnesota facility.

Each offender will be provided three sets of clothing and bedding upon arrival in Minnesota.

What about programming and job opportunities while Idaho offenders are incarcerated in Minnesota?

The Prairie Correctional Center in Appleton, MN has work programs much like IDOC. Offenders will have job opportunities and be able to take part in vocational training programs.

What if the offender has a parole hearing while in Minnesota?

If a parole hearing date comes up during their incarceration in Minnesota, it will be conducted via phone.

Can I send a care package?

No, care packages are not allowed. But you can send a money order via inmate banking to the offender. This will allow him to purchase items (ie: socks) from an approved vendor. See above address for inmate banking.

I want to make a visit, what are the rules for seeing an offender at the Prairie Correctional Facility?

Visiting hours at the Prairie Correctional Facility in Appleton, MN are:

Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 8:00 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00pm.

However, if you're traveling more than 300 miles the Prairie Correctional Facility will allow extended visits. In order for extended visits to happen, the offender must place a request with the chief of security 15 days prior to your arrival. The extended visitation would allow you to see the offender for both sessions on all four days. Under normal visiting rules you are allowed one session per day.

The Prairie Correctional Facility is honoring all prior approved IDOC visitation lists and visitation restrictions for each offender.

What about phone calls?

Telephones are available to offenders during open dayroom hours. All calls are subject to monitoring. Offenders are allowed to make collect calls or use pre-paid minutes through the Commissary at Prairie Correctional Facility.

Collect call rates are \$1.25 connect fee and .22 cents per minute. Debit call rates are .28 cents per minute. (No connect fee.) All calls are 20 minutes in length.

Each offender is allowed to have ten phone numbers on their call list. All numbers are submitted by the offender on a telephone request form. However, they will not be allowed access until the numbers are set in the computer at the Prairie Correctional Facility. Each offender is provided with the details on telephone policy and procedures. At this time all offenders have been given the opportunity to submit two phone numbers to establish immediate contact with family members.

I have more questions, who should I contact?

IDOC (208) 658-2000
or (208)336-0740, ext. 4701

or send e-mail inquiries to: inquire@corr.state.id.us